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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1897.

REPUBLICANISM IN VIRGINIA.

Some of our friends may have thought we were too severe prior to the recent election in our criticisms of the Republican leadership in this State. We were satisfied then as we are satisfied now that the Bowden-Brady Executive Committee was deliberately perpetrating an outrage for the personal benefit of those who lead that faction. Others held those views but were not as ready to give public expression to them.

The results of the election show that we were not mistaken in our views as to the purposes of Bowden, Brady & Co. They did not wish to see the party win, because they knew that success for the party meant the overthrow of their rule. Failure was what they wanted. Their motive has been to keep the organization up to such an extent as to retain possession of it and no further. With complete control of the State organization they can every four years carry a delegation from Virginia to the National Convention and make it the basis for controlling the Federal patronage in the State. This is the height of their ambition, and depth of their party fealty. Of course there is no successful future in store for the party unless a leadership can be secured that is more unselfish and honorable. With all the States bordering on our Commonwealth going into the Republican ranks and the doctrines of the party becoming more popular each year with the people, there is no reason why Virginia should not become Republican with the party united and directed by proper leaders. Such leaders can only be secured by a thorough reorganization of the party. To reach that end a State convention should be held without delay. The call for such a convention should be made by the leaders of both factions. We took this position immediately after the election, and we see that Gen. Walker holds the same views. In another column we publish an interview with Gen. Walker which is full of truth as to the situation.

The people should demand that a convention be held, and those leaders who decline to respond to the wishes of the voters must be driven from power.

GENERAL WALKER TALKS.

He Severely Criticizes the Virginia Republican Machine.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 10.—General James A. Walker, member of the Republican executive committee, though not a harmonious member, gave out an interview tonight in which he criticizes severely the Virginia machine.

He does not mince matters. He criticizes the State committee for refusing to hold a State convention, also states that the members of the executive committee told him he could have the nomination for governor by acclamation if he would accept it at the hands of the State committee.

He declined the honor tendered in that style and insisted upon the calling of a convention. He was informed that a convention would be unwise as there was no telling what it might do.

General Walker reviews the familiar events which led to the nomination of a State ticket and recalls the fact that the machine Republicans issued an address in which they stated that Republicans who either voted for or refused to vote for the Lynchburg nominees did not forfeit their claims or position in the Republican party.

"It was reasonable to suppose," says General Walker, "that after this declaration, the regular organization would stand neutral or at least not exert its influence to pile up a large majority for the Democratic ticket. Was such the case? It was not."

"During the short canvass which ensued, the force of the organization was exerted to prevent Republicans from voting for the Republican candidates for the State offices. Circulars addressed to the colored voters denunciatory to the Republican candidates and tending to arouse race animosities were industriously circulated by members of the executive committee."

"Had they brought to the polls as many voters of the State as did the supporters of the Lynchburg ticket, whom they derided, Virginia would," says Congressman Walker, "for the next four years, have been in the hands of the Republicans. But the effect of this party division reached beyond the State ticket; it sacrificed Legislative candidates as well."

The effort to prevent Republicans from supporting the whole Republican ticket kept thousands away from the polls altogether and thus effectively aided the Democracy in securing an overwhelming majority in the next General Assembly."

"Furthermore, this schism disgusted and discouraged many earnest, loyal men who love the Republican party and its principles, but have no sympathy with either faction as such. These men are not office holders or office seekers. They do not assume to be leaders and when they saw those whom they had honored as their party representatives fighting each other with a bitterness which was almost vindictive, they turned in disgust from such a spectacle and abstained from attendance at the polls."

"To sum up, a fatal mistake was made at Lynchburg on the 18th of August: when the servants of the party are afraid to meet their master, when representatives refuse to submit their conduct to the approval or disapproval of the constituent body, it may be accepted as a fact too plain to admit of doubt that something is wrong, and radically wrong. A safe rule is to trust the people."

General Walker concluded by reiterating what he advised in a former interview, namely: the calling of a Republican convention, the call to be united in by both factions.

THE SHERMAN TWINS.

They Were Adopted by the Wife of the Secretary of State.

As most of us know, Mr. and Mrs. John Sherman were childless. A time came when, after much consideration and thought, they decided to adopt a child and heir. Mrs. Sherman requested some of her intimate friends to assist her in the search of a desirable infant, one honestly and gently born, and without parents to follow on afterward and embarrass.

A friend in New York subsequently telegraphed her to come at once and take her choice of two beautiful babies. There was great excitement in the Sherman home pending Mrs. Sherman's trip to New York after the baby. On the next day

she telegraphed her husband: "Will beat home this afternoon. Send carriage to depot." The carriage went and the Senator remained at home, watching each carriage as it came in sight. The train was a little late. He was becoming nervously anxious.

Finally the carriage hove in sight, he marched out to meet it at the curb, threw open the door. There was Mrs. Sherman and a nurse, each stepping out with a baby in arms. Such an expression as came over that stern Sherman face was never seen before. It could not be described. He was at loss for words for a minute or two and finally was able to stammer: "Well, what does this mean?"

She replied: "Husband, they were so pretty and so much alike, that I could not make a choice, so I selected both." They were twin girl babies. For the next few days it was a show to watch Mr. Sherman as he enjoyed and caressed the newcomers. One of the twins sickened and died within a few weeks, and the other is now "his daughter," Mrs. McCollum.

American and British Systems.

In discussing the comparative merits of the American and British commercial systems, it is necessary to study the respective conditions out of which they arise. In the first place, the American people possess a variety of soils adapted to every species of agricultural products. They have also in abundance every description of raw material required for their diversified industries. England on the other hand, is in want of everything except labor and a limited support of minerals. In order to feed and clothe her population, she calls upon Asia, Africa, Australia, America, China, India and the isles of the sea for enormous contributions of grain, meat, fish, oil, cotton and wool. It is naturally her policy to seek these in exchange for her manufactures. To facilitate this she maintains her magnificent merchant marine.

In England the Malthusian theory has become a stern reality. Her population increases while her food supply relatively falls behind, and the gap in the proportion widens in an alarming manner. The value of England's agricultural products would not serve as units in the count when compared with the value of the agricultural output of the United States. Our present area in cultivation would afford food for a population more than twice as large as that which now occupies this country. Yet we have less than one-tenth of our arable area in cultivation. Our mining industries not only throw those of England in the shade, but they are in excess of those of continental Europe, Asia, South America, Mexico and the British colonies combined; and we have scarcely begun to develop our mineral resources. While the coal mines of Great Britain are already so deep as to greatly increase the cost of mining, we have enough coal near the surface to last us for centuries of consumption, and our aggregate coal supply is practically inexhaustible.

In our manufactures we start with the advantage of having our raw material ready at hand, while England must go thousands of miles for every cotton ball she spins. We can produce all the wool, cotton, woods and metals required for any and every variety of manufacture. It is, therefore, clear that with these three natural advantages of food, fuel and raw material in available abundance, we only need favorable conditions of enterprise and competition to attain and maintain absolute supremacy in every line of human industry. These conditions can only be provided by the system of protection. This proposition requires no argument. It has been amply demonstrated by experience.

Free trade has been a failure even in Great Britain, despite her elaborate colonial policy. A special cable from London, dated Nov. 7, states that the total decrease in the value of British exports for ten months of 1897 is \$30,000,000. England is today confronted by the ominous fact that of the enormous foreign trade of all the British colonies, only about 40 per cent., is transacted with the mother country, while 60 per cent. goes to rival nations. The United States suffers under none of these distractions and limitations.

We require for continuous and increasing prosperity, not so much any particular tariff schedule, as the general, vital, conserving principle of protection, practically applied and prudently adjusted to the industries and interests of all sections and classes.

LONG LEASE FOR DURRANT.

The Execution Can Hardly Take Place for Several Months.

San Francisco, Nov. 12.—In view of the fact that the Supreme Court, which is now in session at Sacramento, will adjourn on Tuesday next until the second Monday in January, it is not considered probable that W. H. Durrant, the condemned murderer of Blanch Lamont and Minnie Williams, will execute the crime for which he was sentenced to be hanged in December, 1895, during the current year.

In the ordinary course of events, the matter cannot come up for hearing upon the points involved in the order granting the writ for probable cause, to which Durrant owes his second lease of life, until the middle of January. After the case has been decided, another thirty days must intervene before the remitter from the Supreme Court can reach the trial court and the condemned man be re-sentenced for the second time. This course would not allow the execution to take place before the latter part of February or the beginning of March next.

It is possible that the attorney-general may apply to the Supreme court to advance the case, but this action is unlikely. Meantime, Durrant has been removed from the condemned cell and returned to his old cell No. 21 in murderer's row at San Quentin.

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